

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for delivering implantable cardiac leads to an implantation site comprising:

a) an elongated carrier body having opposed proximal and distal end portions and defining an interior channel open along substantially the entire length of the carrier body for accommodating at least one implantable cardiac lead; and

b) means mounted for movement along the length of the carrier body for releasably securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the open interior channel of the carrier body during delivery to an implantation site.

2. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the means for securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the interior channel of the carrier body includes a collar mounted on the carrier body.

3. (Original) A device as recited in claim 2, wherein the collar is mounted for adjustable movement along the carrier body.

4. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, further comprising a journaled handle assembly for effectuating axial rotation of the carrier body.

5. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body is tapered to form a shroud to protect the distal end portion of the at least one cardiac lead.

6. (Original) A device as recited in claim 5, wherein the protective shroud is collapsible to reduce the profile thereof for removal from the implantation site.

7. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body includes electrically active mapping electrodes.

8. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body is adapted and configured for articulated movement.

9. (Original) A device as recited in claim 1, further comprising means operatively associated with the proximal end portion of the carrier body for effectuating articulated movement of the distal end portion of the carrier body.

10. (Currently Amended) A device for delivering implantable cardiac leads to an implantation site comprising:

a) an elongated carrier body having opposed proximal and distal end portions and defining an open interior channel having a generally U-shaped cross-section for accommodating at least one implantable cardiac lead; and

b) an adjustable collar mounted for movement along the carrier body for releasably securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the open interior channel of the carrier body during delivery to an implantation site.

11. (Original) A device as recited in claim 10, further comprising a journaled handle assembly for effectuating axial rotation of the carrier body.

12. (Original) A device as recited in claim 10, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body is tapered to form a shroud to protect the distal end portion of the at least one cardiac lead.

13. (Original) A device as recited in claim 12, wherein the shroud is collapsible to reduce the profile thereof for removal from the implantation site.

14. (Original) A device as recited in claim 10, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body includes electrically active mapping electrodes.

15. (Original) A device as recited in claim 10, wherein the distal end portion of the carrier body is adapted and configured for articulated movement.

16. (Original) A device as recited in claim 10, further comprising means operatively associated with the proximal end portion of the carrier body for effectuating articulated movement of the distal end portion of the carrier body.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering implantable cardiac leads to a lead implantation site comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a lead delivery device having an elongated carrier body defining an interior channel open along substantially the entire length of the carrier body for accommodating at least one implantable cardiac lead;
- b) releasably securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the open interior channel of the carrier body with a movable collar;
- c) guiding the carrier body to the implantation site; and
- d) releasing the at least one cardiac lead from the open interior channel of the carrier body at the implantation site.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~to~~claim 17, further comprising the step of rotating the carrier body to deploy the at least one cardiac lead at the implantation site.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~to~~claim 17, wherein the step of releasably securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the interior channel of the carrier body includes providing a movable collar on the carrier body for releasably securing the at least one implantable cardiac lead within the interior channel of the carrier body.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~to~~claim 19, wherein the step of releasing the at least one implantable cardiac lead from the interior channel of the carrier body includes moving the collar from a securing position.